

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, line 1, delete "Description" and
above line 5 and below the title, insert

-- Background of the Invention:

Field of the Invention: -- and

lines 5-6:

The invention relates to a piezoelectric actuator according to the
~~preamble of Claim 1 with:~~

- a stack of a plurality of individual piezoelectric actuator elements, which are disposed between inner electrodes and which contract or expand in a main oscillation direction in dependence on an applied electric voltage,
- a first metallization strip and a second metallization strip, the inner electrodes being respectively connected in an alternating manner to the first or second metallization strip,
- a first outer electrode and a second outer electrode which are respectively fixed to the first or the second metallization strip in order to electrically contact the piezoelectric actuator and
- a first connection element and a second connection element for externally contacting the piezoelectric actuator which are respectively connected to the first or the second outer electrode.

Page 2, between lines 17 and 19, insert

-- Summary of the Invention: --.

Page 4, between lines 3 and 4, insert

-- Brief Description of the Drawing: --.

Page 4, between lines 12 and 14, insert

-- Description of the Preferred Embodiments: --.

Page 9, line 1, Claims We claim:

Page 13, line 1, Abstract Abstract of the Disclosure: